exploration and development work in Rajasthan and as a result 11.17 BCM of gas reserves and 14.60 MMT of heavy oil reserves have been established.

(e) There are plans for carrying out exploratory activities and development drilling in the IX Plan in Rajasthan. An outlay of Rs.192 crores has been earmarked by OIL during IX Plan for the above activities. This is excluding on capital equipments and other facilities. ONGC has also earmarked an amount of Rs.64.16 crores for exploratory work In Rajasthan during 1996-97 to 2000-01.

(f) Government of India at present has no proposal to set up any new oil based public sector in Rajasthan.

[English]

Restoration of Commuted Pension

27. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the commuted portion of the pension of the Central Government employees is restored after 15 years but in Punjab and Haryana the commuted portion is restored after 12 years;

(b) whether Government realise that the way inflation is rising, there is a need for the restoration of commuted pension after 10 years; and

(c) whether Government would also like to refer it to the Pay Commission to sympathetically consider this matter and make suitable recommendations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c). In the case of Central Government pensioners the commuted portion of pension is restored after 15 years. These orders were issued in 1987. Pensioners in Government are compensated against price rise by way of payment of dearness relief on pension at regular intervals. The matter relating to State Government pensioners is the concern of respective State Governments. In some States, the commuted portion of pension for State pensioners is restored before the period of 15 years. There is, at present, no proposal to reduce the number of years for the restoration of commuted pension. The terms of reference of the Fifth Central Pay Commission include 'to examine, with a view to having a proper pension structure for pensions, the existing pension structure including Death cum Retirement Benefits and make recommendations relating thereto which may be desirable and feasible. This would *Inter alia* cover commutation of pension, and the matters related to the same.

[Translation]

Allotment of Bitumen

28. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the allocation of Bitumen in metric tons to the Bihar Government by the Union Government in the years 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96;

(b) the supply orders given by the Bihar Government to supply Bitumen in metric tons during these years to the Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum, Company-wise and year-wise;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the transporters did not make available to Bihar a larger portion of Bitumen allocated to Bihar Government; and

(d) if so, whether the Central Government are considering to take any action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The quantities of bitumen allocated to the Government of Bihar in the years 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 are given below :-

(fig. in MT)

Year	Quantity
1992-93	90000
1993-94	88000
1994-95	78000
1995-96	100600

(b) The quantities of bitumen for which supply order were given by the Government of Bihar to IOC, BPC and HPC are given below :-

(Fig. in MT)

Year	IOC	BPC	HPC
1992-93	29300	20492.53	23940
1993-94	49500	15116.72	46255
1994-95	41000	26329.70	20000
1995-96	56800	15922.03	20050

(c) No, Sir.

(d) does not arise.

Illegal Power Connections

29. SHRI CHHATRAPAL SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether many factories/industries are being run with illegal power connections with the connivance of